

Claims

[c1] A method and an apparatus for spray painting,

a. wherein said apparatus includes:

i. a shaped spray paint nozzle attached to a spray paint can, wherein said shaped nozzle forces the exiting paint to take on the shape and form of the shaped nozzle; and

b. wherein said method comprises the steps of :

i. directing the said shaped nozzle in the desired direction; and

ii. pressing the said shaped nozzle which causes spray paint to exit the said shaped nozzle in the form and shape of the said shaped nozzle.

[c2] A method and an apparatus as recited in claim 1,

a. wherein said apparatus includes:

i. a spray paint nozzle clip attached to, or a part of, the said spray paint nozzle;

ii. said spray paint nozzle and clip attached to a spray paint can; and

iii. said spray paint can with attached spray paint nozzle inserted into a spray paint can holder de-

signed to mate with the said nozzle clip to assure proper positioning of the shaped nozzle; and

b. wherein said method comprises the additional steps of :

- i. inserting the said spray paint can with the said spray paint nozzle and clip attached to the said spray paint can into a spray paint can holder that has a mating slot designed to accept the spray paint nozzle clip in order to assure the said shaped nozzle is aligned in the orientation defined by the mating slot in said spray paint can holder;
- ii. directing the said spray can holder in the desired direction; and
- iii. providing a means for activating the said shaped spray paint nozzle which causes spray paint to exit the said spray paint can and the said shaped nozzle in the form and shape of the said shaped nozzle.

[c3] A method for spray paint marking railroad ties using a multiple nozzle spray paint apparatus,

- a. wherein said apparatus comprises:
 - i. a plurality of spray paint cans held in a plurality of spray paint can holders;
 - ii. said spray paint can holders having a trigger

mechanism for releasing paint from the said spray paint cans;

- iii. said spray paint can holders being attached either fixedly or adjustably in a vertical and/or angular position relative to a horizontal main frame at either end of the said main frame;
- iv. a plurality of roller brackets attached horizontally and perpendicular to the said main frame;
- v. a plurality of vertically and horizontally mounted rollers rotatably attached to said roller brackets;
- vi. a center bracket being attached to said main frame;
- vii. a carrying handle and guide brackets attached to said center bracket;
- viii. a cable connector bar moveably connected to said center bracket and to a plurality of cables;
- ix. a push handle bracket attached to the said main frame;
- x. a handle grip and trigger mechanism attached to a push handle, said push handle being removably attached to the said push handle bracket;
- xi. of the said plurality of cables, the first said cable is attached to the said push handle trigger

mechanism and to the said cable connector bar, two other said cables being connected to the said cable connector bars and to two tension adjustment hooks, the said tension adjustment hooks being further connected to two tension adjustment bars wherein said tension adjustment bars are further connected to another said cable which is connected to said spray paint can holder triggers;

xii. said cables being guided by a plurality of pulley rollers rotatably attached to the said center bracket and to the end pulley brackets;

xiii. said cables being held in tension and in an non-triggering mode by tension spring attached to the said cables along the length of the said main frame; and

b. wherein said method comprises the steps of:

- i. positioning the said apparatus on the railroad track in a horizontal position such that the said rollers are in contact with the railroad track and perpendicular to the said railroad tracks;
- ii. attaching the said push handle to the said push handle bracket;
- iii. placing said spray paint cans in the said spray

paint can holders;

- iv. moving the said apparatus down the said railroad track by pushing the said push handle attached to the said apparatus;
- v. identifying said railroad ties that need to be replaced;
- vi. stopping the said apparatus and activating said triggering mechanism such that paint sprays simultaneously from the said plurality of spray paint cans onto the exposed top ends of the said railroad ties;
- vii. releasing the said triggering mechanism to stop the said paint from spraying; and
- viii. continuing to push the said apparatus down the said railroad track looking for more of the said railroad ties that need to be replaced.

[c4] A method and apparatus as recited in claim 3,

- a. wherein said apparatus includes:
 - i. additional said spray paint cans inserted in additional spray paint can holders being attached either fixedly or adjustably in a vertical and/or angular position relative to a horizontal main frame at one or more locations along the interior horizontal

length of the said main frame;

- ii. additional cables being attached to the said cable connector bar which is movable connected to said center bracket;
- iii. the said additional cables being attached to the spray paint can holder triggers mounted in the said additional spray paint can holders;
- iv. said additional spray paint can holders being mounted to center brackets which are in turn mounted to said frame;
- v. said additional cables being guided by a plurality of pulley rollers rotatably attached to the said center brackets;
- vi. said cables being held in tension and in a non-triggering mode by tension spring attached to the said cables along the length of the said main frame; and

b. wherein said method includes the additional steps of:

- i. placing said spray paint cans in the said additional spray paint can holders; and
- ii. stopping the said apparatus and activating said triggering mechanism such that paint sprays si-

multaneously from the said plurality of spray paint cans onto the exposed top ends of the said railroad ties and on the exposed said railroad tie areas in between the said railroad track.

[c5] A method and apparatus as recited in claim 3,

a. wherein said apparatus comprises:

i. a plurality of said spray paint cans that have a said shaped spray paint nozzle and clip attached to each said spray paint can;

ii. a plurality of said spray paint can holders, each having a spray paint can nozzle clip opening designed to accept the insertion of the said shaped spray paint can nozzle clip in order to keep the resulting said paint spray aligned with the said railroad track; and

b. wherein said method comprises the additional steps of:

i. placing the said spray paint cans with the attached said shaped spray paint nozzle and clip into the said spray paint can holders such that the said spray paint can nozzle clips are in alignment with the spray paint can holder nozzle clip opening; and

ii. stopping the said apparatus and activating the

said triggering mechanism such that paint sprays onto the top surface of the said railroad ties in a shape as defined by the shape of the said shaped spray paint nozzle.

[c6] A method and apparatus as recited in claim 4,

a. wherein said apparatus comprises:

i. a plurality of said spray paint cans that have a said shaped spray paint nozzle and clip attached to each said spray paint can;

ii. a plurality of said spray paint can holders, each having a spray paint can nozzle clip opening designed to accept the insertion of the said shaped spray paint can nozzle clip in order to keep the resulting said paint spray aligned with the said railroad track; and

b. wherein said method comprises the additional steps of:

i. placing the said spray paint cans with the attached said shaped spray paint nozzle and clip into the said spray paint can holders such that the said spray paint can nozzle clips are in alignment with the spray paint can holder nozzle clip opening; and

ii. stopping the said apparatus and activating the

said triggering mechanism such that paint sprays onto the top surface of the said railroad ties in a shape as defined by the shape of the said shaped spray paint nozzle.

- [c7] An apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein there are flexible spray paint shields attached to the said spray paint can holders.
- [c8] An apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein there are flexible spray paint shields attached to the said spray paint can holders.
- [c9] An apparatus as recited in claim 5, wherein there are flexible spray paint shields attached to the said spray paint can holders.
- [c10] An apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein there are flexible spray paint shields attached to the said spray paint can holders.
- [c11] An apparatus as recited in claim 3 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c12] An apparatus as recited in claim 4 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.

- [c13] An apparatus as recited in claim 5 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c14] An apparatus as recited in claim 6 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c15] An apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c16] An apparatus as recited in claim 8 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c17] An apparatus as recited in claim 9 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c18] An apparatus as recited in claim 10 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c19] A method for spray paint marking railroad track using a multiple nozzle spray paint apparatus,
 - a. wherein said apparatus comprises:
 - i. a singular or a plurality of spray paint cans held

- in a single or a plurality of spray paint can holders;
- ii. said spray paint can holders having a trigger mechanism for releasing paint from the said spray paint cans;
- iii. said spray paint can holders being attached either fixedly or adjustably in a horizontal and/or angular position relative to a horizontal main frame at one or more locations along the interior horizontal length of the said main frame;
- iv. a plurality of roller brackets attached horizontally and parallel to the said main frame;
- v. a plurality of vertically and horizontally mounted rollers rotatably attached to said roller brackets;
- vi. a center bracket being attached to said main frame;
- vii. a carrying handle and guide brackets attached to said center bracket;
- viii. a cable connector bar moveably connected to said center bracket and to a plurality of cables;
- ix. a push handle bracket attached to the said main frame;
- x. a handle grip and trigger mechanism attached to a push handle, said push handle being removably

attached to the said push handle bracket;

xi. of the said plurality of cables, the first said cable is attached to the said push handle trigger mechanism and to the said cable connector bar, two other said cables being connected to the said cable connector bars and to two tension adjustment hooks, the said tension adjustment hooks being further connected to two tension adjustment bars wherein said tension adjustment bars are further connected to another said cable which is connected to said spray paint can holder triggers;

xii. said cables being guided by a plurality of pulley rollers rotatably attached to the said center bracket and to the end pulley brackets;

xiii. said cables being held in tension and in a non-triggering mode by tension spring attached to the said cables along the length of the said main frame; and

b. wherein said method comprises the steps of:

- i. positioning the said apparatus on the railroad track in a horizontal position such that the said rollers are in contact with the railroad track and perpendicular to the said railroad tracks;

- ii. attaching the said push handle to the said push handle bracket;
- iii. placing said spray paint can(s) in the said spray paint can holder(s);
- iv. moving the said apparatus down the said railroad track by pushing the said push handle attached to the said apparatus;
- v. identifying said railroad ties that need to be replaced;
- vi. stopping the said apparatus and activating said triggering mechanism such that paint sprays simultaneously from the said plurality of spray paint cans onto the inside surface of the said railroad track;
- vii. releasing the said triggering mechanism to stop the said paint from spraying; and
- viii. continuing to push the said apparatus down the said railroad track looking for more of the said railroad ties that need to be replaced.

[c20] A method and apparatus as recited in claim 19,

- a. wherein said apparatus comprises:
 - i. a plurality of said spray paint cans that have a said shaped spray paint nozzle and clip attached to

each said spray paint can;

ii. a plurality of said spray paint can holders, each having a spray paint can nozzle clip opening designed to accept the insertion of the said shaped spray paint can nozzle clip in order to keep the resulting said paint spray aligned with the said railroad track; and

b. wherein said method comprises the additional step of:

i. placing the said spray paint cans with the attached said shaped spray paint nozzle and clip into the said spray paint can holders such that the said spray paint can nozzle clips are in alignment with the spray paint can holder nozzle clip opening.

- [c21] An apparatus as recited in claim 19, wherein there are flexible spray paint shields attached to the said spray paint can holders.
- [c22] An apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein there are flexible spray paint shields attached to the said spray paint can holders.
- [c23] An apparatus as recited in claim 19 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.

- [c24] An apparatus as recited in claim 20 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c25] An apparatus as recited in claim 21 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.
- [c26] An apparatus as recited in claim 22 wherein there are one or more spray paint can tray holders mounted either removably or fixed to the said main frame.